

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELIZE 00092 281834Z

43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 IO-10 /069 W

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R 280002Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL BELIZE

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3923

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELIZE 092

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI

SUBJECT: REPORTED INCREASE IN NUMBERS OF GUATEMALAN TROOPS
ON BELIZE BORDER

1. MAJOR RICHARD OLDFIELD, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, BRITISH FORCES, BELIZE, CALLED AT CONGEN TO ASK WHETHER WE MIGHT ASSIST HIM IN OBTAINING VERIFICATION OF REPORTS HE HAD OBTAINED FROM UNDISCLOSED SOURCE TO THE EFFECT THAT SINCE FEBRUARY 15 THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 300 IN THE NUMBER OF THE GUATEMALAN TROOPS GARRISONED ALONG THE BORDER. INCREASE REPORTEDLY DISTRIBUTED AMONG CAMPS AT (1) MELCHOR DE MENCOS, (2) LA POLVORA, (3) EL ZAPOTE AND (4) FLORES.

2. REASONS GIVEN FOR INCREASE WERE (1) THAT CAMP AT LA POLVORA WAS BEING EXPANDED TO BECOME AN OFFICER CADET TRAINING SCHOOL AND (2) THAT TROOPS IN THE THREE OTHER CAMPS WERE BEING AUGMENTED IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE SMUGGLING.

3. MAJOR OLDFIELD ASKING FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING (1) ANY INCREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN PETEN AND (2) WHETHER LA POLVORA IS IN FACT TO BE USED AS A CADET TRAINING SCHOOL AND, IF SO, WHETHER THIS WOULD CHANGE LOCUS OF PRESENT OFFICER CADET TRAINING WHICH OLDFIELD UNDERSTANDS IS IN GUATEMALA CITY AND IN PANAMA.

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4. I AGREED TO SEE WHAT WE COULD FIND OUT; HENCE WOULD APPRE-
CIATE RECEIVING ANY INFORMATION ON ABOVE WHICH MIGHT BE
DISCLOSED TO HIM. GAWF

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 28 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: GUATEMALA
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